



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Sawtooth National Forest
Minidoka Ranger District

3650 South Overland Ave.
Burley, ID. 83318-3242
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S/003/0055
cc: Lynn
0003

File Code: 2800

Date: July 9, 2009

RECEIVED

JUL 13 2009

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Mr. Michael Pauletto
I & P Investments
11204 NW 37th Court
Vancouver, WA 98685

CERTIFIED MAIL/RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
7007 0220 0001 7840 5892

Dear Mr. Pauletto,

On March 30, 2009, Mr. Dennis Jorgensen of I&P investments contacted the Sawtooth National Forest regarding release of a \$3150 bond for reclamation work associated with road construction at the Clarks Basin Quarry Area. Based on a June 25, 2009 inspection of the road by Sawtooth National Forest Minerals Administrator Sonny Thornborrow, I have determined that the vegetation on the road does not meet the release criteria stipulated in the bond:

"Revegetation of the disturbed areas will be considered adequate when a minimum of 75 percent ground cover has been maintained for 2 consecutive years over 90 percent of the area reclaimed. Ground cover will be comparable to an adjacent reference area."

The inspector found that vegetation at the site is too sparse to meet the release criteria. Additionally, it was noted that the infestations of cheatgrass and thistle mentioned in previous correspondence are still not controlled (figs.1/2.).

Since these are invasive weeds, they will need to be sprayed in order to prevent further spread. Broadcast seeding with a Forest Service approved seed mix early in the growing season can also help control invasive weeds. Please contact Lucas Phillips, Range Specialist, at this office if you have questions about weed control or approved seed mixes.



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Fig.1. Thistle infestation along road.



Fig.2. Cheatgrass infestation along road.

Before this file can be closed and the bond released, the invasive weeds must be eradicated and perennial vegetation established over the majority of the site.

In July 2007, I&P Investments reimbursed the Forest Service for the cost of controlling invasive weeds. If you intend to treat the weeds yourself, or if you would like to continue reimbursing the Forest Service for treatment costs, please contact this office within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you do not respond within that time frame, we will assume you are no longer accepting responsibility for reclamation of the road and will move forward with taking the reclamation bond in order to continue treatment.

If you have questions regarding this matter please contact Sonny Thornborrow, Minerals Administrator, at 208.737.3289.

Sincerely,

SCOTT C. NANNENGA
Minidoka District Ranger

[REDACTED]
Lynn Kunzler

Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining

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